CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	Facebook Conversation LJ
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1500031.019
Medium:	Computer Text File Printout
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	New Zealand
Language:	English
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	25 February 2015
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	25 February 2015

Summary of reasons for decision:

The publication is an 18 page computer text file printout of a conversation between an adult man and a young teenage girl. It is an archetypal example of an adult man sexually grooming a young teenage girl via social media.

The publication is dedicated to the sexual exploitation of young persons and promotes and supports this activity. In the hands of a person with a sexual interest in young persons, the publication provides a template for the sexual grooming of a young person. It also encourages a reader to see young persons as sexually desirable, as sexually developed and as available for adult sexual gratification. The effect is to strengthen this sexual interest and encourage the reader to pursue the sexual exploitation of vulnerable young people. The publication is thus objectionable.

The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act on the application of the classification criteria. The finding of "objectionable" is a reasonable limitation on freedom of expression. The purpose of the Films, Videos and Publications Classification Act, and s3(2(a)) in particular, is to protect young and vulnerable members of society.